

**Harpswell Board of Selectmen**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday January 8, 2026**  
**Harpswell Town Office**  
**APPROVED 1-22-26**

This meeting was held in the Select Board Meeting room at the Town Office and was available remotely by Zoom. Instructions were included on the published agenda and on the Town's website. Links to a video recording of the meeting are also available on the Town's website.

**Selectmen Present:** Chairman Kevin E. Johnson; Selectman David I. Chipman; Selectman Matthew Gilley

**Staff Present:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator.

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** The agenda was adopted with no changes.
2. **Public Comment:** None.
3. **Select Board's Announcements:** Selectman Chipman reminded the public that the wood available in front of the Town Office is for emergency purposes only – and not for a regular fuel supply.
4. **Town Administrator's Report:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator:
  - Reminded the public that the **Recycling Center** had begun its reduced Winter schedule (closed Thursdays) through April 30.
  - Informed the Select Board that Harpswell Community Television would be submitting a list of equipment for consideration; to be purchased using the \$40k funds approved on the 2023 warrant.
5. **Contract Amendment with Lakeside Concrete Cutting Re: Administrative Bldg:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator, asked the Select Board to consider an amendment to the contract the Town had with Lakeside Concrete Cutting for the removal of the Mitchell Field Administrative Building. This amendment would authorize the removal of the foundation and frost walls for an additional \$40,000 – plus approximately \$1,500/day in labor (4 days estimated). It is planned to use the existing fill on-hand at Mitchell Field to re-settle the area. Current projections for the cost of their original work are running \$89k less than Voters approved. The Select Board unanimously approved the amendment. This will mean that roads and pedestrian access to Mitchell Field will continue to be restricted for an additional period in January.
6. **Set Shellfish License Numbers:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator, asked the Select Board to set Shellfish License numbers for 2026. Town Harbormaster Darcie Couture – working in consultation with the Marine Resources Committee - was recommending that the number be held equal to that set in 2025. If approved by the Select Board, then the figure would be submitted to the Maine Department of Marine Resources for their review. The Select Board unanimously approved the recommendation.
7. **Consider Secret Ballot Items for March 14, 2026 Warrant:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Town Administrator, asked the Select Board to consider what questions they would like to see placed on the March Town Meeting secret ballot. There was an imminent deadline for getting these to the Town Clerk. Chairman Johnson recommended that questions related to the Curtis Memorial Library and Clark Cove be

chosen for secret ballot. All of the Select Board members indicated that they felt that a secret ballot would encourage high levels of voter engagement on these topics. The Select Board unanimously agreed to submit the questions related to the Curtis Memorial Library and Clark Cove to the Town Clerk for inclusion on the Secret Ballot at Town Meeting. Specific language to be reviewed.

- 8. Resolution to Authorize Issuance of \$6,000,000 in General Obligation Bonds to Finance a New Emergency Services Building / Selection of Banking Institution for Bond Anticipation Note:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator, presented a Resolution entitled "*Resolution to Authorize Issuance of \$6,000,000 in General Obligation Bonds to Finance a New Emergency Services Building*" and asked for its adoption by the Select Board. This Resolution authorizes the Town to borrow the funds that Voters approved for the purpose of building a new Emergency Services Building. The Select Board had previously approved the Treasurer's plan to finance the project via the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Part of the Treasurer's authority included in the Resolution is to also issue notes in anticipation of MMBB funding. The Treasurer informed the Select Board that the Town had received 5 bids in response to the request for \$1.5M in such bond anticipation funding. The recommended vendor was Bath Savings, with a low bid of 4.49% interest. The Select Board unanimously approved the full Resolution, as well as the selection of Bath Savings for the Bond Anticipation Note.
- 9. Authorization of the Warrants:** The Select Board unanimously approved Warrant 2 totaling \$1,536,765.72, and Warrant PR1 totaling \$30,565.83.
- 10. Public Comment:** None.
- 11. Other Business:** Terri Gaudet, Treasurer & Deputy Town Administrator, asked the Select Board if they could keep their Thursday evenings available since this is typically the time of the year when meetings become weekly.
- 12. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Hubbard  
Recording Secretary